



## ART REVIEW BOARD

### STAFF REPORT FEBRUARY 18, 2010

**Project:** FIRE TACTICAL TRAINING CENTER

**Proposal:** To consider public art component of the new Fire Tactical Training Center.

**Recommendation:** Provide staff direction

**Location:** 7200 Stevenson Boulevard in the located in the Industrial Planning Area.  
APN 531-0165-034-03  
(See aerial photo on next page)

**Area:** Classroom building (approximately 3,800 sq. ft.) and training tower building (5,300 sq. ft.) on a two acre lot

**People:** City of Fremont, Project Manager Mike Ma: Applicant  
WLC Architects, Bill Louie; Architect  
City of Fremont, Owner  
Barbara Meerjans, Staff Planner (510) 494-44451; [bmeerjans@fremont.gov](mailto:bmeerjans@fremont.gov)

**BACKGROUND:** On June 9, 1987, the City Council adopted the “Art in Public Places Program Policy”, applicable to the construction of City buildings and new parks with an estimated construction cost of over \$500,000. The policy allocates one percent (1%) of the estimated construction cost for public art. The Policy authorizes the Art Review Board to determine the preferred method for selecting the artist and artwork for the project. The new Fire Tactical Training Center is subject to the policy. ARB is to consider the public art component of the new Fire Tactical Training Center.



Figure 1: Aerial Photo (2006) of Project Site and Surrounding Area.



**SURROUNDING LAND USES:** North: North: R & D and office industrial park  
South: Open space  
East: General industrial  
West: Industrial park and open space

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The construction of Fire Tactical Training Center is funded by Measure R, the Fire Safety Bond of 2002, passed by City of Fremont voters. Measure R authorized \$51 million of fire facility seismic performance improvements, new construction and building renovations. The new Fire Tactical Training Center is now under construction in the Industrial Planning Area. The training facility will consist of a one-story classroom building (approximately 3,800 sq. ft.) and a five-story training tower building (5,300 sq. ft.) on a two acre site. The grounds at the site will be used for tactical maneuvers such as fire attack, search and rescue, technical rescue, hazardous materials mitigation, etc. The training facility classroom primarily will be used for in-service training programs related to field operations. The classroom building will also be used for classes for residents such as the Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), recruit academies, and occasional training with other agencies. The office hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Night drills are conducted during one month of a calendar year but occasional other night events may occur.

The project includes street frontage improvements, site landscaping, a secured rear work yard and training area, approximately ten public parking spaces at the front of the building, and twenty-six parking spaces for the staff in the secured area to the rear. A portion of the training tower is approximately 61 feet in height. The Training Tower height is designed to meet employee certification needs for basic firefighter and technical rescue training. Basic firefighter training includes using ladders and operating above ground in various firefighting and rescue techniques. Ladder use includes multiple-story ground ladders and the mechanical aerial ladder truck. Technical rescue training includes advanced rescue techniques performed above ground and on building sides, as well as rappelling to the ground from a minimum height of 50 feet.

**Discussion:** The total budget for the public art component of the Fire Tactical Training Center is \$36,640; of this \$29,312 is available for the artist's commission, per the Art in Public Places Policy Program. The remaining funds are allocated for administrative charges, such as staff time. The project site is in a relatively isolated industrial area at the far westerly end of Stevenson Boulevard. ARB may recommend transferring the public art funds from the Fire Tactical Training Center to allow for placement of art in a location more beneficial to the general public (pooled art fund) or direct staff to begin an open competition selection method for art to be located at the project site.

**PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT:**

Public hearing notification is applicable. A total of 22 notices were mailed to owners and occupants of property within 500 feet of the site. The notices to owners and occupants were mailed on February 3, 2010. A Public Hearing Notice was published by *The Tri City Voice* on February 3, 2010.

**ENCLOSURES:**

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***Informational Items:***

1. [Site plan and elevations](#)
2. [Informational Green Building Fact Sheet](#)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

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1. Hold public hearing.
2. Recommend to City Council the public art funds from the Fire Tactical Training Center be transferred to the pooled art funds to allow for placement of art in a location more beneficial to the general public.

OR

3. Direct staff to begin an open competition or other selection method for art to be located at the project site.